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It covers (1) U.S. Federal government documents, especially those from executive branch departments and those from the Congressional branch - - Committees, the U.S. General Accounting Office, and the Congressional Budget Office; (2) policy briefs from major private think tanks, especially those in Washington; and (3) major reports from national professional associations. A few new high quality, high relevance think tank-sponsored books are also listed.

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Title Index

- [Item#1](#) ACA and State Governments: Consider Savings as Well as Costs
- [Item#2](#) College Students and Technology
- [Item#3](#) Global Water Issues
- [Item#4](#) Looking for Help: Will Rising Democracies Become International Democracy Supporters?
- [Item#5](#) The Purpose of the Corporation in Business and Law School Curricula
- [Item#6](#) A Return to Responsibility: What President Obama and Congress Can Learn About Defense Budgets from Past Presidents
- [Item#7](#) Schools and Armed Conflict: Global Survey of Domestic Laws and State Practice Protecting Schools from Attack and Military Use
- [Item#8](#) Sizing the Clean Economy: A National and Regional Green Jobs Assessment
- [Item#9](#) Water Challenges Asia's Rising Powers - Part I
- [Item#10](#) Water Challenges Asia's Rising Powers - Part II

Reports

- [Item#1](#)
ACA and State Governments: Consider Savings as Well as Costs. Urban Institute. Matthew Buettgens et al. July 13, 2011.

The report finds that state governments are likely to spend \$92-129 billion less from 2014 to 2019 with implementation of the Affordable Care Act, thanks to provisions reducing the uninsured population and increasing federal support for health care previously financed by states. The authors find that, overall, the federal government would spend \$704 to \$743 billion more under reform from 2014 to 2019. Even after 2019, when the federal government's share of Medicaid costs declines to its permanent level, states will still come out ahead, realizing net savings in 2020 alone of \$12 to \$19 billion.

[*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412361-consider-savings-pdf> [PDF format, 18 pages].

Item#2

College Students and Technology. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Aaron Smith et al. July 19, 2011.

By every key measurement, college students lead the way in tech and gadget use. But community college students do not use digital tools as much as four-year college students and graduate students.

[*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://pewinternet.org/Reports/2011/College-students-and-technology.aspx> [HTML format, various paging].

Item#3

Global Water Issues. International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. July 18, 2011.

Global Water Issues explores the political, social and economic challenges presented by threats to Earth's most vital natural resource. With a foreword by U.S. Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs Maria Otero, *Global Water Issues* describes how this ecological emergency affects population centers, human health, climate and food security.

<http://iipdigital.usembassy.gov/st/english/publication/2011/07/20110718181221yeldnahc0.7118123.html#axzz1SXqcexPv> [HTML format with links].

Item#4

Looking for Help: Will Rising Democracies Become International Democracy Supporters? Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Thomas Carothers and Richard Youngs. July 12, 2011.

Rising democracies from the developing world have the potential to assist and revitalize international democracy support. Encouraging these countries to do more to support democracy abroad should be a priority, but it will not be easy, say the authors.

[*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/Rising_democracies_final.pdf [PDF format, 42 pages].

Item#5

The Purpose of the Corporation in Business and Law School Curricula. Brookings Institution. Darrell M. West. July 19, 2011.

For most of American history, businesses were run to provide livelihoods and "reasonable" profit. In the last few decades, though, business and society in general have moved toward emphasizing profit maximization and individual self-interest. The shift from "reasonable profit" to profit maximization has significant implications for corporate behavior and government regulation. Moreover, how society views the purpose of the corporation has significant implications not only for business, but also for the perceived responsibilities of its citizens, their interactions with each other, and their obligation to their fellow countrymen, says the author.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2011/0719_corporation_west/0719_corporation_west.pdf [PDF format, 24 pages].

Item#6

A Return to Responsibility: What President Obama and Congress Can Learn About Defense Budgets from Past Presidents. Center for American Progress. Lawrence J. Korb et al. July 14, 2011.

Congress and the Obama administration must get defense spending under control as the country faces large budget deficits and debt--especially since military spending did much to contribute to our budget problems. The paper looks back at the post-World War II presidents who cut the budget to see how they brought defense spending into balance in the face of deficits and war drawdowns. It shows how each president made decisions based on a number of factors including the threats the country faced at the time.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/07/pdf/defense_budgets.pdf [PDF format, 48 pages].

Item#7

Schools and Armed Conflict: Global Survey of Domestic Laws and State Practice Protecting Schools from Attack and Military Use. Human Rights Watch. July 20, 2011.

In many countries around the world, the ability of children to obtain an education in a safe and nurturing environment is being disrupted by armed forces and non-state armed groups who attack schools or who occupy and use schools for long periods. The report examines the laws and practices of 56 countries around the world, and evaluates global progress on ensuring that schools and other education facilities are protected during times of conflict.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2011/07/20/schools-and-armed-conflict-0> [HTML format with links, 166 pages].

Item#8

Sizing the Clean Economy: A National and Regional Green Jobs Assessment. Brookings Institution. Mark Muro et al. July 13, 2011.

The "green" or "clean" or low-carbon economy, defined as the sector of the economy that produces goods and services with an environmental benefit, remains at once a compelling aspiration and an enigma. As a matter of aspiration, no swath of the economy has been more widely celebrated as a source of economic renewal and potential job creation. Yet, the clean economy remains an enigma: hard to assess, according to the report. Not only do "green" or "clean" activities and jobs related to environmental aims pervade all sectors of the U.S. economy; they also remain tricky to define and isolate, and count.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/Programs/Metro/clean_economy/0713_clean_economy.pdf
[PDF format, 68 pages].

Item#9

Water Challenges Asia's Rising Powers - Part I. YaleGlobal. Keith Schneider. July 12, 2011.

Scarcity of water increasingly challenges economic growth of India and China. Water's role in economic development is taken for granted, yet for running the growth engine it's as precious a commodity as fossil fuels. The first part of the series examines strategies for negotiating demands among competing industries. Conflicts over water could disrupt China's steady economic progress, argues the author. The nation of 1.33 billion, the largest emerging global market and set to become the world's lead manufacturing nation, is a price-setter. The Chinese government anticipated contests over water and already enforces many efficiency and conservation measures. But food and energy production depend on water while China is getting drier: Water reserves are down 13 percent from 2000. Amid rising energy demands, coal-fired power already accounts for nearly a quarter of the nation's freshwater use. China's ongoing rapid development could lead to water shortages sure to rattle food, energy and water prices worldwide.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/water-challenges-asia-powers-part-i> [HTML format, various paging].

Item#10

Water Challenges Asia's Rising Powers - Part II. YaleGlobal. Rohini Nilekani. July 14, 2011.

India and China account for one third of the world's population; each consumes more freshwater than other nations. Per inhabitant per year, though, India uses less than half what's used in the US, China uses less than one third. The second part of the series examines India and China's water use, their expectations for rising demand and recognition that shortages will disrupt economic progress. The Planning Commission of India repeatedly warns that water will become a more serious issue than land or energy for India in years to come, points out the author. India's transition from an economy based on agriculture to a mixed one, with water use controlled by states rather than the federal constitution, already leads to conflicts. She urges planning for a low-water economy: Good governance and regulatory frameworks can prevent pollution and waste, while encouraging efficiency, reliable and fair allocation, and wise consumer choices.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/water-challenges-asia-powers-part-ii> [HTML format, various paging].